

# OFFSHORE LIGHTHOUSE PROTECTION



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FISCAL ANALYSIS

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## SENATE BILL 795

**Sponsor:** Sen. John J. H. Schwarz  
**House Committee:** Commerce

## FLOOR ANALYSIS - 12/5/02

**Analyst(s):** Kirk Lindquist

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## SUMMARY

This bill would amend the Michigan Submerged Lands statute to allow the Department of Environmental Quality to accept applications for bottomlands use from a non-profit entity, local governmental unit, state or federal agency, or a community development organization to restore and maintain lighthouses located on the bottomlands of the Great Lakes.

Of the more than 120 lighthouses in Michigan, 77 are currently under Federal ownership and will be "excessed" because of newer technology. Many of these lighthouses are some distance from shore or are located on the ends of piers and break waters. 19 of these 38 offshore lighthouses are ready to be transferred to the State of Michigan, but this proposed statute change must be approved before lease or use permits can be issued by the Department of Environmental Quality.

This bill would not have a fiscal impact on the State of Michigan or on local governmental units.